United Nations A/AC.265/2004/2

General Assembly

Distr.: General
17 May 2004

Original: English

Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities
Third session
New York, 24 May-4 June 2004

Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on progress in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the study on the human rights of persons with disabilities

Note by the Secretariat

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/52, members of the Ad Hoc Committee are referred to the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on progress in the implementation of the recommendations contained in the study on the human rights of persons with disabilities (E/CN.4/2004/74).

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Third session
New York, 24 May-4 June 2004

Use of the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability to support the participation of non-governmental organizations and experts

Note by the Secretariat

1. The General Assembly, by its resolution 57/229, decided to establish a voluntary fund to support the participation of non-governmental organizations and experts from developing countries, in particular from the least developed countries, and invited Governments, civil society and the private sector to contribute to the voluntary fund.[1]

2. Following the adoption of resolution 57/229, a sub-account of the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability was created to receive contributions that have been earmarked for the above-mentioned purpose. As of 17 May 2004, contributions have been received from/pledged by eight countries for an estimated total amount of US$ 250,000.

3. The details of those contributions are as follows:

Country	*Amount*
Canada	CDN$ 70 000
China	US$ 5 000
Czech Republic	US$ 5 500
Denmark (*being processed*)	DKR 350 000
Mexico	US$ 20 000
Qatar	US$ 9 979
Sweden	US$ 62 803
United Kingdom (*being processed*)	US$ 3 000

04-35763 (E) 210504

4. As of 17 May 2004, the status of disbursement of funds is as follows:

(a) An amount of US $29,502 was allocated to support the participation of five NGO representatives and experts including two assistants, to the meeting of the Working Group of the Ad Hoc Committee that was held from 5 to 16 January 2004. They were nationals of the Philippines, Costa Rica and South Africa;

(b) An estimated amount of US$ 80,000 has been provided to 19 NGO representatives, including five assistants, to facilitate their participation in the third session of the Ad Hoc Committee. They are nationals of Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guinea, India, Jamaica, Lebanon, the Philippines, South Africa, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda.

Notes

[1] In order to be eligible for financial support from the sub-account, NGO representatives must represent or be affiliated with NGOs that are in consultative status with the Economic and Social Council or that have been accredited to a previous session of the Ad Hoc Committee.

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General Assembly

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Third session
New York, 24 May-4 June 2004

Use of the United Nations Voluntary Fund on Disability to support the participation of non-governmental organizations and experts

Note by the Secretariat

Corrigendum

Paragraph 3

The contribution listed against "United Kingdom (*being processed*)" *should read* £30,000.

04-38201 (E) 100604

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Ad Hoc Committee on a Comprehensive and Integral International Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Rights and Dignity of Persons with Disabilities
Third session
New York, 24 May-4 June 2004

Letter dated 18 May 2004 from the Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

It is my pleasure to introduce an easy-to-read English version of the draft Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities that was prepared in January 2004 by a working group of the Ad Hoc Committee on Disabilities.

The New Zealand Government prepared the easy-to-read English version to ensure access to consultations on the draft Convention for New Zealanders with lower reading comprehension skills, including persons with intellectual disabilities.

While this easy-to-read English version follows as closely as possible the Working Group's draft, it is not possible to fully translate all legal terms into plain language. We hope, however, that the plainer language version will be a useful tool to assist persons with disabilities who have difficulty reading complex material to understand the issues covered in the draft Convention. We also hope this will also allow access for English speaking persons with disabilities in other countries to the processes surrounding the development of an international convention on their human rights.

I would be grateful if you could circulate the present letter as a document of the Ad Hoc Committee on Disabilities and post the easy-to-read English version of the draft Convention on the United Nations Enable web site (see http://iseek.un.org/frame.asp?url=http://intranet.un.org>.

(*Signed*) Don **MacKay**

04-36128 (E) 250504